

ANDREA BEATTY RINIKER
Director



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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December 8, 1986

Members of Colbert Landfill
Contaminate Area Committee
General Delivery
Colbert, WA 99005

Dear Members:

Governor Gardner has reviewed your recent letter regarding your concerns about activities at the Colbert Landfill, and has asked me to respond to you directly.

The Department of Ecology has attempted to involve Spokane County and the Key Tronics Corporation in the investigation and cleanup of the landfill. This has been done by issuing notice letters and providing opportunities for both parties to take over the site study. Unfortunately, these efforts have been unsuccessful. Under current state laws, the department cannot compel parties responsible for contamination problems to conduct Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study activities. Under the federal Superfund laws, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency can issue an order once the magnitude of the problem and suggested cleanup alternatives have been presented at the completion of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study.

The Remedial Investigation was completed in May of 1986, and the Feasibility Study, which will develop and evaluate alternative cleanup methods, will be available for public review and comment in December. A public meeting will be held in January to receive and include your comments in the Feasibility Study. EPA and Ecology will select the final cleanup alternative and EPA will issue an order for the responsible parties to design and implement that alternative.

Mr. Fred Gardner, project manager for the site, has been in weekly contact with Grace Garrison of your committee. He met on November 3 with Spokane County, Key Tronics, and members of your committee to provide an update on the study and discuss the status of well sampling. The following schedule was discussed at that meeting.

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<u>Activity</u>	<u>Date</u>
Submission of the Draft Feasibility Study to Ecology (will include all of the alternatives for cleanup).	November 24, 1986
Internal review of Draft FS completed.	December 5, 1986
Submittal of Draft FS to 5 week public comment.	December 15, 1986
Hold public meetings to receive verbal comments.	January 20, 1987
Issue responsiveness summary.	February 13, 1987
Issue Record of Decision (select formal Remedial Action).	April 30, 1987
Issue order to responsible party for design.	May 1, 1987
Begin Remedial Design (if responsible party does not respond to order).	June 1, 1987

Some of the schedule beyond the responsiveness summary will be dependent on how much time EPA takes in issuing their record of decision. Mr. Gardner is in the process of arranging for sampling of wells which have not been previously sampled. The opportunity to sample those wells was given to Spokane County and Key Tronics at the November 3 meeting, and they will begin sampling soon. Those wells not sampled by Spokane County and Key Tronics will be sampled by the Department of Ecology within the next two months.

I believe we are making significant progress in the cleanup of this site. Mr. Gardner will continue to keep you updated as we move into the public comment and design phases of the cleanup.

I appreciate the opportunity to clarify the status of activities at the Colbert Landfill, and hope I have responded to your concerns. If you need further assistance or information, please contact Mr. Fred Gardner at (206) 459-6687; Clare Ryan at (206) 459-6274; or our Eastern Regional office, where staff will relay messages, at (509) 456-2926.

Sincerely,



Andrea Beatty Riniker
Director

ABR:ra
cc: Governor Gardner
Clare Ryan
Fred Gardner✓